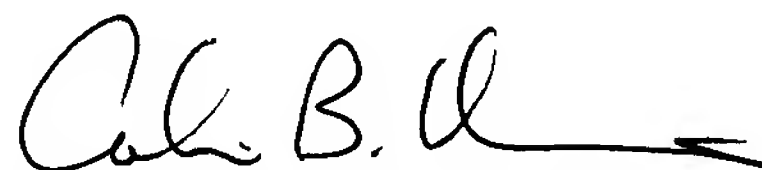


Accordingly, an early and favorable consideration of Claims 7-15 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Col. B. U.", is written over a horizontal line.

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